



April 7, 2023 e-newsletter
A Bi-Monthly Publication

From the President



Dear WAS-H Friends,

WAS-H is springing forward with a lot of activity this month. Our annual member renewal reminders will go out on April 14th, sent via email. You can easily renew online, or print a form and mail in a check, whichever you find most convenient. Your membership dues are a key support for WAS-H.

Working hard this past year, our bylaws committee lead by Marion Friedman with Kathleen Cooper, Beth Graham, and Donna Van Fleet have spent countless hours fine-tuning our WAS-H Bylaws. The amended bylaws reflect current WAS-H operations and practices while also allowing WAS-H the flexibility to adapt its structure and processes to changing needs over time. When you receive your mailing this month, please review and submit your ballot.

Our April General Meeting featured an informative and entertaining demo by Patrick Palmer, Dean of the Glassell School. The current monthly gallery exhibit themed fences and borders is on display now... stop by to enjoy this beautiful show during April.

Looking to May, our General Meeting will be on May 7th. Kat Rodgers, professional artist and WAS-H teacher, will be our demo artist. Our Gallery Exhibit theme is Playfulness with juror Bradley Kerl. The Awards and Reception will follow our General Meeting. Registration for the May 6th Paint-In with Bridgett Vallery has a few open spots left, so register soon.

We have a number of classes on the schedule for April and May -- see our full class list [HERE](#). Registering for a class is a great way to enjoy the camaraderie of other artists and enhance your artistic skills. Our standard events such as Open Studio, Model Lab and Senior Group are going strong and welcome you to join in.

I hope you will join with everything going on at WAS-H – thank you for being a part of our wonderful arts community at WAS-H!

Warm Regards,
Karen Houston Stopnicki

New Members & Orientation

Please welcome the 13 new members who joined us in March.

Leonardo Carrizales
Xiaohong Dou
Tosha Gibson
Louise Haeuser
Joyce Harris
Stephen Hendry
Erie Hoppe
Stephanie Lackey
Kelly Medrano
Mary Rushing
Carol Stamatedes
Ariana Vincent
Simone Woodage

New Members Orientation

Friday, April 21

from 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

While this session is designed for new members, everyone is welcome to attend. There is no fee, but online registration is required.

Click [HERE](#) to register

Gallery Conversations

April 2023 Gallery Conversations *"Borders and Fences"*



Our theme this month is Borders and Fences, real or rhetorical. As always, our members love to apply the themes in many creative ways, including puns! You will have to study Katie Steck's painting for a minute to get it, but it will hit you. After such a fabulous IWE show, it is nice to relax and enjoy the offerings from our members. As volunteers this month we had Mansueto Fabugais, and our incoming Gallery Directors,

Leisa Patin and Linda Flowers. It takes a village to make this event go smoothly and we appreciate everyone's help.

Our judge was **Diane Brahm**. She is academically trained in art at the University of Texas at Austin and continues to develop and test a contemporary approach to modern portraiture and design. She strives to progress toward a fresher presentation. Ms. Brahm is adept handling oils, pastels, charcoal, and mixed watercolor. Her art has won numerous awards in both regional and national shows and has been published in national art magazines. She shares her gifts teaching art, currently in the west Houston area. She also holds workshops for adults, teens, and school aged children. Ms. Brahm has previously served on

the boards of the Houston Civic Arts Association, Houston Art Society, and West Houston Area Artists.

Ms. Brahm did a thoughtful review of the entries. She used our simple system of placing yellow sticky notes on her favorites and then narrowing it down. "Such difficult choices!" she said. There were many, many notes affixed. Even though watercolor is not her primary choice of medium, she admires the versatility and look of watercolors.



First Place: Tamara Kontrimas "Shoring the Dunes"

DB: This is a lovely play of lights and darks in an unexpected way, and an abstract representation of a very realistic subject. This artist can draw, paint, and design.

TK: I had been entertaining the idea for painting the beach fences for a while, and now was the time to do it. I would love to paint more loosely like the painting next to mine, but it is more natural for me to approach it in a calculated way. To make the fences, I thought about masking, but decided to trim some brushes to the exact width.



**Third Place: L. Lynn Adamson
"Peace on Earth"**

**Second Place: Larry Spitzberg
"Seaside Village"**

DB: I noticed several of your paintings in the gallery today, and I chose this one because I was drawn in. I love the looseness, the primary color palette, and the people in the painting. I could look at it a long time and would enjoy it in my house.

LS: I have been trying to paint like Frank Webb who, many times, uses straight lines in his works. I actually bought a ruler and used it in this one. Frank's first step is to splash on a bunch of color and then carry on from there. That was my approach but I think I failed because I don't know how to paint.

Cissy Geigerman: I beg to differ. Also, I enjoyed talking to Larry's wife and she shared with me that Larry painted several of these especially for this show. The one that is recognized is actually the one that he kept going back to for tweaking. It is always hard to know when to call it done.

DB: In spite of the small size, this is a little gem. The colors are beautiful with plenty of realism. We are glad you submitted this, keep it up!

LA: I am new to WASH from Minnesota, and this is my first entry.



**Honorable Mention:
Laurie Hammons
"Good Fences Make
Good Neighbors"**

DB: I love the limited color scheme, the washes, and splashes. Just beautiful. A good title too!

LH: I started with the houses, then later got the idea for the fences and kind of went crazy.



**Honorable Mention:
Irene Sheytman
"Walls"**

DB: This is a large stone road and buildings. I love the way the roughness of the stonework and brickwork is displayed. The composition draws you in, my eyes follow all the way up the road.

IS: This is from a photograph for reference, but I changed the composition quite a bit. I added more walls, staircases, and of course railings to go with the stairs.



**Honorable Mention:
Carla Gauthier
"Hiking Near Austin"**

DB: This artist has control of the medium. It is a lovely landscape and I love the depth shown from the transition of foreground to background.

Cissy Geigerman: Carla Gauthier could not attend the reception, but is very pleased to be recognized. She is a popular instructor here at WASH and contributes in many ways. We appreciate her enthusiastic response when the Gallery puts out a call for entries.

**Thank you for a successful 46th IWE:
Creativity, collaboration, community, celebration**
by Donna Van Fleet and Kelly Ann Medrano
photos by Laurie Hammons and Laura Mossman

The International Watermedia Exhibition continues to be a remarkable showcase of creativity and collaboration. This annual Exhibition is possible only thanks to the collective effort of volunteers and artists from the local and global art community, coming together to create a truly spectacular display of the best-of-the-best of watermedia paintings.



The enthusiasm for this year's Exhibition led to extending gallery hours to seven days/week. Along with the steady flow of general-public walk-ins, many who visited the WAS-H gallery for the first time, the Exhibition welcomed multiple group outings and hosted a private event. The stunning artworks made a powerful impact on the hearts and minds of all who attended, inspiring a record number of purchased paintings.



WAS-H is immensely grateful to everyone who contributed to this celebration of our vibrant and diverse art community, both locally and globally. This



includes our volunteers, members, board, supporters and donors, and of course, the artists who submitted their amazing works.

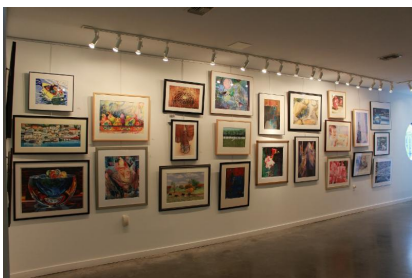
This year's award winners and the paintings selected for participation this year's exhibit works can be seen on [our website](#).

WAS-H board members Jan McNeill, Donna Van Fleet and Beth Graham hosted a group of Houston Public Media Council members on an "incredible tour" of the 46th IWE. Photos compliments of HPM.



Volunteer in the Gallery!

2nd Saturday Volunteer Gallery Assistant



Each month, we need a volunteer to staff the Gallery on the 2nd Saturday.

Looking to staff the months of July, Sept., Oct., Nov., and Dec.

The hours are 10 am - 3 pm. If you can help out, please sign up if you are available for any of the months above. Clicking [HERE](#) to sign up.

Looking Ahead



Upcoming May Show



Upcoming June Show

This month WAS-H artists

In honor of all the new springtime babies, May's theme is focused on playfulness. This can include children of any age, toys, or just the joy of being whimsical.

Registration Deadline:

May 3, 2023

Click to see the: [PROSPECTUS](#)

Register [Here](#)

create whatever makes their heart sing.

Registration Deadline:

May 31, 2023

Click to see the show rules: [Prospectus](#)

April Classes and Workshops

with seats still available!



Weekend Workshop

Painting Abstracts with

Mohammad Ali Bhatti

April 8 & 9

9:30 am - 3:30 pm

\$170 Tuition/\$150 Members

Register [Here](#)



Virtual

Watercolor Skills - Mixing Color

Jason Michael Bentley

Monday, April 10

12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

\$60 Tuition/\$50 Members

Register [Here](#)



Abstract Painting for Enhancing

Creativity and Composition, Part 2

Linda Southern Vanek

April 18 & 25 (Tuesday)

1 pm - 4 pm

\$110 Tuition/\$90 Members

Register [Here](#)



Weekend Workshop

Lighthouse #1

Les McDonald

April 22 & 23

9:30 am - 3:30 pm

\$110 Tuition/\$90 Members

Register [Here](#)

One Day



Paint Pouring Workshop

Laura Mossman

April 20 (Sunday)

11 am - 3 pm

\$60 Tuition/\$50 Members

Register [Here](#)

[VIEW ALL CLASSES](#)

Katherine Rodgers will be May's Demo Artist

Kat Rodgers will be our demo artist at May's general meeting on Sunday, May 7 @ 2 pm.

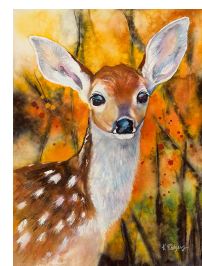
Kat's subjects – owls, foxes, raccoons – are a nice compliment for May's show theme, “Kids, Toys, and Playfulness”.

“During my recent time in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, I became an avid birder and started to photograph my own bird images around the island.

“In the demo, I will demonstrate how I approach bird compositions, feathers, and finishing work. “

Kat teaches an Introduction to Watercolor class at WAS-H, in addition to online watercolor classes on SkillShare.

<http://www.katherinerodgersfineart.com/>



Sunday, May 6, 2023
Demo @ 2pm
w/ Kat Rodgers



Share your **news** or write an article to submit for the WASHRAG by sending to our Communications Director, Nancy Moody, at Washrag@watercolorhouston.org

Click [HERE](#) for the latest blog posts.

Send your thoughts about **special events** you'd be interested in or other recommendations to our President, Karen Stopnicki, at President@watercolorhouston.org.

Send your ideas about **classes or workshops** you'd be interested in by emailing our Education Director, Beth Graham, at Education@watercolorhouston.org.

For all other questions or comments on any of our programs or services, you may contact the Artist Liaison by email @ [Liaison](#) or by phone during regular gallery hours @ 713.942.9966

Gallery/Office Hours: Tuesday - Saturday 10 am - 3 pm

[Covid Policy](#)

[Classes/Workshops](#)

[Upcoming Major Workshops](#)

[Model Lab](#)

[Membership](#)

[Washrag Blog](#)

[Calendar of Events](#)

Watercolor Art Society-Houston | www.watercolorhouston.org



Founded in 1975, the Watercolor Art Society – Houston (WAS-H) is a non-profit organization bringing the excitement of water-media to the greater Houston area with outstanding exhibitions, world-class instruction and dedicated community outreach. Year-round opportunities are provided to every level of painter, from novice to the seasoned expert. Art lovers can also enjoy year-round exhibitions in our gallery in the Museum District.

Watercolor Art Society - Houston | 1601 W. Alabama, Houston, TX 77006-4101

[Unsubscribe](#) admin@watercolorhouston.org

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by admin@watercolorhouston.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!